



Municipality of Metropolitan Seattle

Exchange Building • 821 Second Ave. • Seattle, WA 98104-1598

WA 2917

7/20/1990

CERTIFIED MAIL  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

July 20, 1990

Sylvia Burges  
Environmental Protection Agency  
HW-112  
1200 Sixth Avenue  
Seattle, Wa 98101

Draft of Permit No. 7597

Dear Sylvia:

Enclosed is a draft of the proposed Industrial Waste Discharge Permit No. 7597 for the Pacific Northern Oil Company's groundwater remediation project at Pier 91 in Seattle.

This draft permit is for your review. Please notify this office of any comments about the draft permit within fourteen (14) days of the above date. If no comment is received and the permit fee has been paid, a signed permit will be issued thirty (30) days following the final date of public notice publication.

If you have any questions contact me at 684-2378.

Very truly yours,

Jacqueline A. Eden  
Industrial Waste Investigator  
Comprehensive Planning Division

:mwr  
Enclosure

cc: Doug Knutson, Dept. of Ecology  
Kris Effertz, Seattle Engineering Department  
Doug Hotchkiss, Port of Seattle

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JUL 24 1990  
WASTE MANAGEMENT BRANCH  
FILE COPY

USEPA RCRA



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**AGENDA**

PANOCO/Chempro Waste Discharge Permits, Pier 91, Seattle  
July 5, 1990 1.30 pm

- o Meeting Objectives
- o Introductions
- o Metro Responsibilities
- o Background:
  - PANOCO permit application
  - Chempro permit renewal
  - other agency responsibilities
- o Outstanding Issues:
  - facilities ownership, operation, responsibility:  
product/sewer facilities
  - EPA Agreed Order: footprint/subsurface extent, PANOCO  
relationship
  - follow-up projects: characterization, schedule

Jackie Eaton - PANOCO  
Ray  
John Cardiff - CP: Pier 91

## ATTENDEES

PANOCO/Chempro Waste Discharge Permits, Pier 91, Seattle  
July 5, 1990 1.30 pm

<u>Name</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>	<u>Phone</u>
Jackie Eden	Metro: Industrial Waste	684-2378.
JOE SUBSITS	DEPT. OF ECOLOGY	438-7777
Mike Keller	Chempro	223-0500
David Waldschmidt	Pacific No. Oil	282-4421
Susan Donahue	CHEMPRO	223-0500
Erick Miller	Converse	285-5200
John Strunk	Converse	285-5200
Dennis Stefani	Chempro	223-0500
Sylvia Burgess	EPA	442-1254
Ray Carveth	Metro	684-2326



June 29, 1990

Sylvia Burges  
Environmental Protection Agency  
HW 112  
1200 Sixth Avenue  
Seattle, Washington 98101

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Dear Ms. Burges:

Metro's Industrial Waste section is currently involved in the preparation of waste discharge documents for two facilities on Pier 91: Chemical Processors Incorporated (Chempro) and Pacific Northern Oil Company (PANOCO).

Chempro operates a waste oil treatment and reclamation facility on Pier 91. Oils are blended and sold as bunker fuel. Chempro have a waste discharge permit for discharge of oily wastewater. The permit is currently being renewed and will address waste oil treatment and reclamation, the potential for a small amount of hazardous waste treatment and any remedial actions that are necessary at this site.

Chempro have recently entered into an Agreed Order with the Environmental Protection Agency pursuant to the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. Under this order, Chempro will undertake a facility investigation of their Pier 91 facility and a corrective measures study, if determined necessary.

PANOCO operates a fuel reclamation facility on Pier 91. In addition, the company operates lines which transfer fuel from their facility to vessels on the pier. PANOCO's waste discharge permit application is for discharge of groundwater to the sewer in the vicinity of their fuel lines. The application states that diesel fuel is present in the groundwater. Prior to discharge, the recovered groundwater will pass through an oil/water separator. The project is expected to commence this summer and we are currently in the process of preparing the draft waste discharge permit.

Chempro lease the pier facilities from the Port of Seattle. PANOCO sub-lease their facilities from Chempro.


As we prepare permit materials for the two companies we would like to ensure that we are doing so with the best available information. Consistency between the two permits is of great importance as is consistency with scheduling and content of other agencies' activities related to the site which may have ramifications to this project.

Sylvia Burges  
June 29, 1990  
Page 2

For this purpose, we have scheduled a meeting on Thursday, July 5, 1990 at 1:30 pm at the Metro Environmental Laboratories, 322 West Ewing Street, Seattle. Participation is being requested of personnel and/or representatives from the two companies, and government agencies with regulatory authority over the site. Our objective is to receive and discuss input related the site and any actual, or proposed activities thereon.

I will look forward to meeting you on July 5, 1990. Please do not hesitate to call me in the meantime at 684-2378 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jacqueline Eden". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jacqueline" being more prominent than the last name "Eden".

Jacqueline Eden  
Industrial Waste Investigator  
Comprehensive Planning Division

JAE3/LPNOMTG

cc: John Strunk, PANOCA  
David Waldschmidt  
Susan Donahue, Chempro  
Doug Hotchkiss, Port of Seattle  
Kris Effertz, City of Seattle  
Doug Knutson, Department of Ecology  
Ray Carveth, Metro  
Elsie Hulsizer, Metro  
Carolyn Purnell, Metro

JAE3\A



June 29, 1990

Reply To  
Attn Of: MD-101

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Office Appearance  
FROM: Clark L. Gaulding  
ARA for Policy and Management  
TO: ALL EMPLOYEES

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Clark L. Gaulding", written over the typed name in the "FROM" field.

Over the past several months there has been a growing tendency to post an ever-increasing number of notices on or near elevator buttons in the elevator lobbies on all EPA floors.

I feel that this makes a very poor first impression on visitors and clients visiting our offices. It makes the entryway into our office space look messy and unprofessional and reflects on all who work here. Therefore, I am asking for your cooperation in not posting anything in the elevator lobbies in the future.

I think we can still make people aware of important events in a timely manner through better utilization of bulletin boards. We are going to place larger bulletin boards at one end of the elevator lobby on each floor. In addition, if you have other ideas or suggestions, please contact Grace Spencer, MD-101, or call 2-1794.



U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION X

IDAHO OPERATIONS OFFICE  
422 WEST WASHINGTON STREET  
BOISE, IDAHO 83702

*Ken Hall  
mail room  
please make a  
copy for every  
Branch Chief  
& distribute*

June 27, 1990

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Contributions for Wally's Memorial

FROM: M. Lynn McKee *Lynn McKee*

TO: All Region 10 Staff

As a memorial to Wally, several people have suggested we establish a memorial scholarship fund for his two children, Jessie age 12, and Stacie age 9, in place of the "Toys for Tots".

If you would like to donate to this scholarship fund for Jessie and Stacie, please send donations to Lynn McKee of the Idaho Operations Office.

042N

# Port scolded for late report on Chempro

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Seattle, WA  
Queen Anne News  
(Cir. W.)

By Mary Darling

Neighbors Advisory Committee (NAC) members chided Port of Seattle officials for not informing the group sooner about contamination studies underway at Chempro's Pier 91 facility at a recent meeting.

"It horrifies me to think that it's taken two years to decide what they're going to do," said Janet Anderson, Magnolia resident and NAC member.

Mark Reis, director of marine policy and business development for the port, apologized for not telling the committee sooner but said the two years of sampling and analysis of soil and ground water at the site had become routine "background."

The Environmental Protection Agency and Chempro recently signed an agreement to study the Pier 91 area after EPA investigators noticed petroleum odor and discolored ground-water samples during a facility assessment in March of 1988.

Mike Keller, vice president of operations at Chempro, told NAC members Chempro had taken the initiative in requesting the EPA issue them an order to study the Pier 91 site to see if any threat to human health or Elliott Bay existed because of the site's history.

Chempro has leased the Pier 91 site from the Port of Seattle since 1971 for processing bunker, waste and diesel oils. In the 1920s, the Pier 91 site was a gas refinery by the California Petroleum Com-

pany. The tanks were taken over in 1941 by the U.S. Navy for use as a fuel and lubricating-oil transfer station.

The two years of study has not been wasted time spent deliberating about what to do about the contamination, said Doug Hotchkiss, environmental management specialist for the port.

"Those two years encompassed a lot of sampling, a lot of analysis and a lot of money spent by Chempro," Hotchkiss said.

Chempro will submit a work plan that will outline procedures for studying the contamination in September. Kate Tate, in charge of public relations at Chempro, said they will schedule public meetings to seek input on the plan from NAC members and

the general public over the next few months.

Chempro officials said they were also continuing to monitor the sulfurous smells that waft over the Magnolia bridge. So far, the source has not been discovered, but the process used to heat the oil is suspected.

Hotchkiss added that a storm drain near the piers exposed during low tides might be the culprit. The outfall accumulates seaweed and organic sediments which release a strong smell of hydrogen sulfide.

In other news, Bob Koplowitz has been chosen to be the port liaison to NAC. Koplowitz has worked at the port for the past 10 years, mostly in the transportation division.

JUN 6 1989

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MAY 23 1990

# Toxins at 5502 Chempro studied

By Mary Darling

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Chemical Processors, Inc. (Chempro) are studying contamination at Chempro's Pier 91 facility to determine if marine life in Elliott Bay is at risk.

The EPA and Chempro recently signed an agreement to study the pier area after EPA investigators noticed petroleum odor and discolored ground water samples during a routine assessment of the facility in March 1988.

EPA cited the discolored water as evidence that a number of oily spills had occurred over the years at the site. Historical information indicates oil spills there go back to the 1930s.

Among the contaminants found are a variety of organic chemicals such as benzene, vinyl chloride and xylenes. Sylvia Burges, EPA project manager for the site, said the affect of these chemicals on marine life varies and depends on concentrations.

"In general terms, we can say oil and fish don't mix well," Burges said. "A lot of these compounds have toxic effects on fish or what they like to eat. They could kill them outright or cause chronic effects (such as tumors found in soles and other bottom fish), depending on the concentration."

But so far these materials have been found only in the ground water and subsurface soils at the site, said Kate Tate, in charge of public relations at Chempro.

Chempro has leased the site from the Port of Seattle since 1971 for processing industrial and household waste oil. The result of this process is a marketable oil sold to ships as bunker fuel and a treatable waste water that goes into Metro's sewer system.

In the 1920s, the Pier 91 site housed tanks used for gas a refinery by the California Petroleum Company. Since 1931, the Port of Seattle has owned the property on an intermittent basis, and from 1941 to the early 1970s, the U.S. Navy took over the tank system for use as a fuel and lubricating-oil transfer station.

Because Chempro's facility is not a public place where toddlers could eat the dirt or where passersby could inhale dust containing contaminants, Burges said there doesn't appear to be a risk to human health. Drinking water for employees at the facility does not come from an aquifer at the site.

A schedule for the studies to be conducted under EPA's order has not yet been determined, and it could be several years before any cleanup actions are undertaken, Burges said.

"Chempro is responsible for conducting

studies and will ultimately be responsible for paying for all corrective means necessary, with the proviso that they have rights to try and reclaim costs under the Superfund (federal money used for site cleanup) if the contamination is created by someone else," Burges said.

If studies show a threat of contamination to Elliott Bay, Burges said actions would be taken immediately to address the problem and worked into long-term measures. If the threat is not severe but a high level of contamination is found, the EPA would call for a corrective-measures study, at which point there would be an opportunity for public comment, she said.

Tate said Chempro will set up a community-relations program to keep the public informed on contamination findings and clean-up tactics, and to get their input.

"We want to operate this site until long into the future, so we want to correct this problem," Tate said.

"Chempro has demonstrated a willingness to work on issues with the community," Tate said. She said residents' complaints lead to fitting equipment with mufflers. Chempro is currently working with the community to find the source of a sulfurous smell residents have noticed coming from the general Pier 91 area.

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